(b) whether it is fact that portion of the ATPPF and PF extension counter alongwith boundary walls falls within the ROW in NH-37 at Guwahati bypass; and

(c) if so, the action plan formulated to clear the encroachment and rehabilitation of ATPPF and PF, without financial burden or ATPPF and PF?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RTED.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) The North-South and East-West corridor project announced by the Prime Minister, has a total length of 758 kms. on the East-West corridor, in the North-Eastern region (State of Assam only). Out of this, four-laning of 18.4 kms. of Guwahati Bypass section at a total estimated cost of Rs. 119 crores in Assam State is presently under implementation. Project preparation of West Bengal Assam Border to Guwahati section, totaling to a length of about 256 kms. is being taken up. The whole corridor including balance length in Assam State is targeted to be completed by December, 2007.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The encroachment is being removed by the office of the Board of Trustees of ATPPF and PF. A service road leading to the office complex of ATPPF and PF would be provided at the cost of National Highways Authority of India, without financial burden on ATPPF and PF.

Completion of National Highways connecting metro cities

1301. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH:

PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the four laning of the National Highways connecting the fours metros and building two corridors across the country which is being undertaken by the National Highways Authority of India, would be completed ahead of schedule;

(b) if so, to what extent;

(c) whether the work on this project has been improved further;

(d) if so, the amount utilised so far; and

(e) by when it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RTED.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) to (e) The National Highways Development Project (NHDP) comprises Golden Quadrilateral (GQ) connecting the four metros, *viz.* Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Delhi and North-South and East-West (N-S and E-W) corridors connecting Srinagar to Kanyakumari with Kochi-Salem spur and Silchar to Porbandar respectively. These National Highways are being improved from existing 2-lane highways to 4-lane divided carriageway. An amount of Rs. 6363 crores, which includes expenditure on NHDP and other projects being implemented by National Highways Authority of India, has been spent upto February, 2002. GQ component was originally scheduled for completion by December, 2004, which is now targeted for substantial completion by December, 2003. N-S and E-W corridors were originally scheduled for completion by December, 2009, which are also now targeted for completion by December, 2007.

Improvement of NH in Assam

1302. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what amount has been sanctioned to improve the National Highway stretched from Rangia to Jonai in Assam in the current year of 2001-2002;

(b) whether the work would be done by Border Roads Organisation;

(c) if so, what is the time-frame; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?